

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 SS-15 AGRE-00 LAB-04
HEW-04 HUD-01 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00
NAS-01 NSF-01 OPIC-03 FAA-00 DOE-15 NSC-05 SOE-02
/083 W

-----051668 271730Z /43

R 270935Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1619

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAG: USTSJC TS
SUBJECT: US-TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION

REF: TUNIS 5220

1. ON JUNE 24 I MET AT HIS REQUEST WITH HOUSTAPHA ZAAOUNI,
MINISTER OF PLAN, TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF DATES FOR NEXT
US-TUNISIAN STATE
COMMISSION, AS FOLLOW-UP TO MY TALK
REPORTED REF TUNIS TEL WITH AMBASSADOR HEDDA. TO MY RELIEF
ZAAOUNI TOLD ME HE HAD INFORMED HEDDA HE WAS OPPOSED TO
HIS TWO-TIER PLAN OF MEETINGS. I AGREED WITH ZAAOUNI THAT
IT WOULD BE NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO GET AN AMERICAN
TEAM TOGETHER WITH POSITIONS CLEARED BY END OF JULY.

2. AFTER SOME FURTHER DISCUSSION ZAAOUNI AND I AGREED IT
WOULD BE BEST TO HOLD OUR NEXT JC MEETINGS IN TUNIS SHORTLY
AFTER THE PROPOSED VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA TO
WASHINGTON. HE THEN ACCEPTED MY SUGGESTION THAT THE EARLIER
WE HAD IN OUR HANDS THE GOT PROPOSALS FOR AN AGENDA THE MORE
READY AND MORE FLEXIBLE WE COULD BE IN ESTABLISHING
DATES FOR THE JC. HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE
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LETTING ME HAVE THE GOT'S DRAFT AGENDA WITHIN THE NEXT
FEW WEEKS, CERTAINLY NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1. IN TURN
I PROMISED TO QUERY WASHINGTON FOR ITS ADVANCE IDEAS
ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS USG WISHES TO PROPOSE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S
COOPERATION IN ROUNDING UP BEST OBTAINABLE LIST OF TENTATIVE

AGENDA ITEMS (E.G. TAX TREATY) SUGGESTED BY WASHINGTON
AGENCIES. I WOULD ALSO LIKE THE DEPARTMENT'S REASSURANCE
THAT THE FORMULA ZAAOUNI ANDI HAVE EVOLVED MEETS WITH
GENERAL APPROVAL OF THE AGENCIES CONCERNED.
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TUNIS04577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780266-0325
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780614/aaaaambx.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6e63e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TUNIS 5220
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2186931
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION
TAGS: OCON, TS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6e63e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014